

Commerce And Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro. W. Va. Pocahontas Co.
electricity to Cloverlick and the surrounding territory this water wheel
was installed by Berry Coyner of Cloverlick, and was erected in 1937 with a
franchise from the state to set poles and furnish electricity to the people
of Cloverlick and near by territory.

In 1931 a man by the name of Gardner Packard with his cousin the
late William C Gardner started the operation of a post and rail plant at Cl-
overlick the posts were Locust and the rails of Chestnut bought from farmers

of Pocahontas County it required many thousand of each this has furnished a
market for our Locust and Chestnut timber they were trucked to Cloverlick and
there finished ready for shipment to New York and Maryland to be used for fen-
cing as the salt water from the ocean in the mist that covers certain areas of
these states causes fast decay of metal fencing most of these rails and post
went to Long Island, they also made what is known as hurdle fence that went to
New York state to be built on some of the old colonial estates where they have
and raise fancy horses namely the Whitneys, Vanderbilts and others, the power to
run this plant is generated at Cloverlick. This operation not only furnishes a
market for our timber but furnishes employment to many men either at the plant
or in trucking or cutting the timber from all over Pocahontas County.

These posts and rails are shipped out over the C & O from Cloverlick
to Maryland, New York and other seaboard states.

Other streams that could be put to use in Pocahontas County are Deer

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Creek, North Fork, Galfords Creek, Sitlington Creek and a part of Cheat River
of the upper half of the county and Elk River of the North Western part, the
future of these streams is in in the making as they could be harnessed so as
to furnish power for the entire county, electricity for the rural sections.

Greenbrier River with the fall it has could be put to work furnishing
electricity for both power and lights and it is hoped that in the near futu-
re some one will undertake to harness some of our many streams thereby furn-
ishing electricity and power to the rural sections of Pocahontas County this
would cause the wheels of industry to roll and Pocahontas County would again
be one of W. Va. s industrial counties.

Information. Ist part from Pocahontas Times and R.W Brown. Greenbank. W. Va.

latter part. observation and employes of Gardner Packard working at Clover-
lick.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Juanita S. Dilley

Clover Hick. W. Va.

Chapter 5 section 3b

July 12, 1940

TANNERS, MILLERS AND BLACKSMITHS

NORTH FORK MILL

This mill was erected by Uriah Hevener, Sr., in the year of 1879, on the site of the old Bruffey flour mill. Patric Bruffey had erected a flour mill on the same site about the year of 1825 which was deiven by an over shot water wheel; he also had an up and down saw mill driven by the same water power arrangment, which had been supplanted by a new saw mill in the 1870's

In the last few years the mill was operated under the firm name of The North Fork Milling Company, but was known far and near as the Hevener Mill. It was erected when the famous white pine trees were plentiful and all the frame work was hewed and dressed by hand, all the framing was mortised, draw bored and pinned with locust pins. No spikes were used in the frame work. The entire building was four stories high including the basement and was a complete masterpiece of architecture. The modern carpenter would always stand in admiration and marvel at its perfect construction.

The services of James Elliott was secured to build the mill and with the help of Eldridge Brown and a Mr. Propps did all the carpenter work on the building. Charles P. Brown laid the foundation and did the mason work. The machinery was put into perfect running condition by a millwright by the name of Corann and Robert J. Brown, carpenter helper.

Many different millers operated the mill during the past sixty years. Perhaps Robert W. Gum worked the mill longer than any other miller.

In keeping up with industry, and in view of the needs of the Greenbank community it may be observed that the old Bruffey mill and the Hevener mill was a center of industry and had their place of importance in the niche of the history of the Greenbank community.

James Elliott, the master mechanic of the building was a soldier in the Indian wars; was a private under the command of General George A. Custer, and General Reno. He was with Reno's army when Custer's company was massacred in 1876. Mr. Elliott's affidavit was taken by Squire John P. Townsend in 1926 for the purpose of securing a pension as an Indian war veteran. He died before the papers were ratified by the U. S. Government. He was a Confederate soldier in the Civil War under the command of General Kirby Smith, and Dick Taylor in the South West. After the war he worked his way from Mississippi to Iowa, and from there in company with a man named Reynolds went to the Dakotas on a trapping expedition and thereby enlisted in Custer's Army.

On Saturday night, March 2, 1940 the North Fork Mill was utterly and completely destroyed by fire. This disaster is considered the most unfortunate event of a calamitous nature that has affected the Greenbank neighborhood since the days of the Civil War. J. B. Orndorf owner of the mill had worked in the mill all day without fire. Different persons had passed the mill just after dark and saw no light or fire. The fire was discovered about 7 p.m., by Clyde Gillispie and Cecil Arbogast who live near by;